



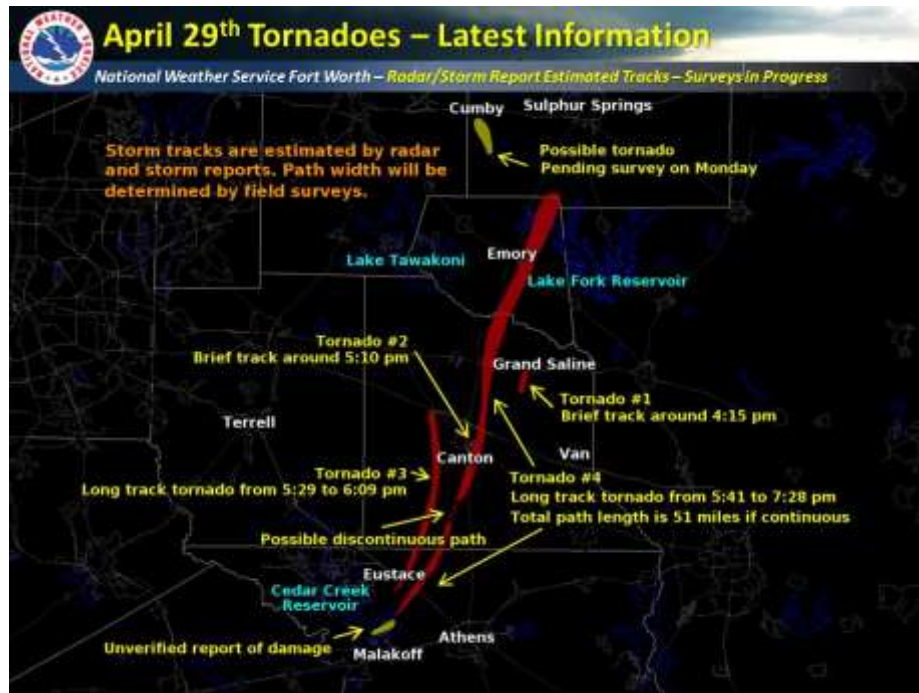
Texas Department of Public Safety Texas Division of Emergency Management State Situation Report

Event Name	17-0010 April Severe Weather
Date	April 30, 2017
Time	1300
Operational Period	April 29 2017 – April 30 2017
Report Number	1

Regions Affected	
DPS Regions Affected	1
DDC's Active	Tyler

STATEWIDE CURRENT SITUATION:

In the late afternoon and evening of Saturday, April 29th, 2017 severe storms producing numerous reported tornadoes spawned Northeast Texas impacting Henderson, Rains, and Van Zandt counties. The hardest hit area has been to the City of Canton, Van Zandt County, where a large, long track tornado produced significant damage in and around the city. Two of the tornadoes yesterday evening were long track tornadoes, including the one which hit Canton. One long track tornado began near Eustace and moved to the west side of Canton. The second long track tornado began to the south and southeast of Canton, moved north to the east side of Canton, where the most significant damage occurred. The tornado then tracked north with a continuous track to the City of Emory, Rains County, before finally dissipating. The third tornado was reported near the City of Caney in Henderson County, and a fourth tornado touched down near the City of Grand Saline Van Zandt County.



The Texas State Operations Center (SOC) increased its readiness level to Level III (Increased Readiness) at 8:30 p.m., 29 April 2017. At 7:00 a.m., the SOC again increased its readiness level to Level I (Emergency Conditions) to support disaster response operations.



Tornado Damage in Van Zandt Co, TX



Tornado Damage in Fruitvale, TX

OPERATIONAL PRIORITIES:

1. Protect life and property.
2. Support rapid & effective response.
3. Collect and disseminate accurate incident information to improve decision-making.
4. Accurately track incident costs associated with assigned resources for cost recovery.

Region 1 (Includes DDCs 4, 5, 6, and 22)

DDC 6 – Tyler (Includes: Anderson, Camp, Cherokee, Gregg, Harrison, Henderson, Marion, Panola, Rains, Rusk, Smith, Upshur, Van Zandt and Wood Counties)

DDC Tyler is activated at Level I (Emergency Conditions).

Storm damage has been reported in Henderson, Rains, Smith, Van Zandt, and Wood counties. All major roads are open. TXDOT is assisting Van Zandt County officials with debris removal from smaller roadways so search and rescue operations can continue. Hospitals are at normal operations and have not been impacted. No schools are impacted. Van Zandt County and the City of Canton EOC activated and co-located. Search and rescue operations continue by Texas Task Force One and Two. There is no estimated time for SAR completion. Three shelters were opened in Van Zandt County overnight with three guests. GIS estimates

5,192 homes are located in the different tornado paths and local officials continue to conduct damage assessments.

RESPONDING STATE AGENCIES/ORGANIZATIONS REPORTS

Texas Parks and Wildlife Department (TPWD): 10 game wardens and one canine unit is supporting DDC Tyler and are located at the Canton Texas Department of Transportation (TXDOT) facility.

Texas Highway Patrol (THP): Currently have one Sergeant and 15 troopers assisting in the impacted areas. Texas Department of Public Safety (DPS) Safety Aviation currently has two helicopters conducting aerial damage assessment.

Texas A&M Engineering Extension Service: Texas Task Force One (TX-TF1 and TX-TF2) are on location working in close coordination with local officials and state agencies to provide support. Search and Rescue (SAR) is ongoing over a wide area utilizing technical and canine search teams.

Texas A&M Forest Service (TFS): Currently has 23 employees supporting the DDC which includes a type III incident management team.

Texas Department of State Health Services (DSHS): Providing support to the DDC. An Ambulance was requested yesterday to assist in patient transport and was demobilized this morning. A request for assistance for a mortuary trailer was also received and processed.

Texas Health and Human Services Commission (HHSC): There have been no impacts to hospitals or living centers. Reports received of two nursing home facilities running on generator power. HHSC is conducting well checks and 2-1-1 is supporting local information needs.

Texas Animal Health Commission (TAHC): Deployed a veterinary team to support TX-TF1 and TX-TF2 canine search animals. Assessing animal and carcass needs. Checking on downed livestock fences in the area.

Texas Division of Emergency Management (TDEM): Providing 24 hour staffing at the State Operations Center. TDEM State and District Coordinators are supporting the DDC and local jurisdictions impacted by the severe weather. The Texas Emergency Management Assistance Team (TEMAT) has also been activated to provide resource assistance as needed. TDEM Disaster Recovery Finance Coordinators have also been activated to provide disaster response cost capturing assistance to impacted jurisdictions.

Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ): Contacting water and waste water facilities in impacted areas.

Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT)- Paris district worked overnight to clear roads of tornado debris. Currently Van Zandt, Tyler, and Henderson counties are being worked on. Van Zandt County shows damage to roadways from trees and debris. TxDOT has emergency fuel vehicles on site to provide fueling to emergency response vehicles.

In addition to tornado support TxDOT has been working on the winter conditions in the Texas Panhandle- Roads are pre-treated and will be passable. Some areas show snow drifts though this will not impact the roads being passable. Northwestern portion of panhandle is covered with snow, but passable for vehicles. US 87 is closed into New Mexico.

Texas Military Department (TMD)- TMD is on standby to provide any resources requested through the STAR process. A TMD representative will remain at the SOC until the event culminates.

Mass Care: Texas Volunteers Active in Disasters (VOAD) are actively involved with the American Red Cross (ARC) and have opened three shelters. ARC, The Salvation Army (TSA) and Mercy Chefs are conducting feeding operations to support first responders and disaster survivors. TSA has a command canteen deployed and two additional canteens are enroute to serve first responders. Coordination is taking place for a multi-agency feeding task force.

Infrastructure Impacts:

Road Closures: No major road closures reported

Utility Outages: Public Utility Commission reported the following outage information:

Trinity Valley Electric Coop reports less than 15,000 without power. There is significant damage to both ends of the 138 kV transmission line. Trinity expects repairs to run into tomorrow and plans to conduct aerial surveillance of damages on the same day.

Oncor reports 6,500 customer outages. Kaufman County is most affected, with 4,500 outages. Oncor is assessing damages and expects to restore service by this evening.

School Closures: No school closures have been reported.

FINAL COMMENTS: The State Operations Center (SOC) is at Level I (Emergency Conditions). The Texas Division of Emergency Management (TDEM) continues to monitor the situation and will provide additional situation reports as needed.

The four levels of SOC activation are:

Level I (Emergency Conditions)
Level II (Escalated Response Conditions)
Level III (Increased Readiness Conditions)
Level IV (Normal Conditions)

*This Situation Report can be found on the TDEM webpage at:
www.txdps.state.tx.us/dem.*

W. Nim Kidd, CEM, TEM

Chief

Texas Division of Emergency Management

Assistant Director

Texas Homeland Security

Texas Department of Public Safety